

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, LOUISVILLE CORPS OF ENGINEERS
REGULATORY BRANCH, WEST SECTION 6855 State Road 66
NEWBURGH, INDIANA 47630
FAX: (812) 858-2678
http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil
February 23, 2016

Operations Division Regulatory Branch (West) ID No. LRL-2013-00635-GJD

Ms. Wendy Melgin, Deputy Chief U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region V 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Ms. Melgin:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of an application for Department of the Army authorization under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The application has been submitted by United Minerals Company, LLC. The proposed project would result in discharges of fill and/or dredged material into "waters of the United States" on a majority of a 1,679.6 acre site. The site is approved by Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) Permit No . S-00357.

Under this proposal the applicat is proposing the following: 1. to fill 8,427 linear feet of ephemeral streams; 2. to fill 45,213 linear feet of intermittent streams; 3. to fill 200 linear feet of perennial stream; 4. to fill 462.18 acres of palustrine forested (PFO) wetlands, 27.13 of palustrine emergent (PEM) wetlands, 19.81 acres of palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) wetlands, 1.04 palustrine uncosolidated bottom (PUBG) wetlands, and 5. to fill 72.85 acres of open waters. All economically recoverable coal would be removed during the excavation of the area, processed and sold.

The proposed project is located in Pigeon Creek, unnamed tributary streams of Pigeon Creek, associated wetlands of Pigeon Creek, and open waters, northwest of Boonville, Warrick County, Indiana.

The application will be evaluated by this office for an Individual Permit. A copy of this application is enclosed and is being provided to your office in advance of the opening of the comment period to allow extra time for office to review the project and offer any substantive comments that you feel are appropriate. A "Draft" Public Notice is also included. You will be notified through the Public Notice process as to the official opening and closing comment dates.

Your response is solicited as to assessment of the "waters of the U.S.," project impacts, mitigation proposal and other areas that may warrant further consideration. In your response, please refer to ID No. LRL-2013-00635-GJD. If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact me by writing to the following address;

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CELRL-OPF-W
Attn: George DeLancey
6855 State Road 66
Newburgh, Indiana 47630

or by calling (812) 842-2807.

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

George Delansey Project Manager Regulatory Branch

Enclosures (Draft PN and CD application)

Copy Furnished: See Attached List

Christine Stanifer IDNR-Division of Water, Env. Unit 402 West Washington Street, W264 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Wendy Melgin, Deputy Chief US Environmental Protection Agency Wetlands and Watersheds Branch Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Scott Pruitt USFWS - Bloomington 620 South Walker Street Bloomington, IN 47403

Rick Jones Indiana State Historic Preservation Office 402 W. Washington Street, W274 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

Martha Clark Mettler Indiana Department of Environmental Management Office of Water Quality 1255 100 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, IN 476204-2251

Mrs. Joy Schieferstein Office of Surface Mining Minton-Capehart Federal Building 575 North Pennsylvania Room 301 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Indiana DNR RR 2 Box 129 Jasonville, IN 47438